



ESTONIA



INTRODUCTION

After centuries of Danish, Swedish, German, and Russian rule, Estonia attained independence in 1918. Forcibly incorporated into the USSR in 1940, it regained its freedom in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Alar KARIS

Head of Government

Prime Minister Kaja KALLAS

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Tallinn

Legislature

unicameral Parliament or Riigikogu (101 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 45,228 sq km

Land: 42,388 sq km

Water: 2,840 sq km

Climate

maritime; wet, moderate winters, cool summers

Natural Resources

oil shale, peat, rare earth elements, phosphorite, clay, limestone, sand, dolomite, arable land, sea mud

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

advanced service-based EU and OECD economy; regional trade and telecommunications leader; recently rejected Baltic sea rail tunnel from Tallinn to Helsinki; flat income taxation; substantial welfare system; balanced budget culture; business-friendly climate

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$47.44 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$35,600 (2020 est.)

Industries - food, engineering, electronics, wood and wood products, textiles, information technology, telecommunications

Agricultural products - wheat, milk, barley, rapeseed, rye, oats, peas, potatoes, pork, triticale

Exports \$21.69 billion (2020 est.)

broadcasting equipment, refined petroleum, coal tar oil, cars, prefabricated buildings (2019)

partners: Finland 13%, Sweden 9%, Latvia 8%, Russia 8%, US 7%, Lithuania 6%, Germany 6% (2019)

Imports \$21.73 billion (2020 est.)

cars, refined petroleum, coal tar oil, broadcasting equipment, packaged medicines (2019)

partners: Russia 12%, Germany 10%, Finland 9%, Lithuania 7%, Latvia 7%, Sweden 6%, Poland 6%, China 6% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

1.2 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

-0.69% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Estonian 68.7%, Russian 24.8%, Ukrainian 1.7%, Belarusian 1%, Finn 0.6%, other 1.6%, unspecified 1.6% (2011 est.)

Language

Estonian (official) 68.5%, Russian 29.6%, Ukrainian 0.6%, other 1.2%, unspecified 0.1% (2011 est.)

Religion

Orthodox 16.2%, Lutheran 9.9%, other Christian (including Methodist, Seventh Day Adventist, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal) 2.2%, other 0.9%, none 54.1%, unspecified 16.7% (2011 est.)

